



Bent Tree Property Owner's Association

P.O. Box 2631, Monument, CO 80132

Dear Homeowner,

If you have traveled into our beautiful Rocky Mountains recently you will have noticed that many trees have turned brown. A decade-long drought and virulent pine beetle infestation has taken a deadly toll on our once pristine mountains. To date the loss of pines to the beetles here in Colorado alone is an area roughly the size of the state of Rhode Island. And, closer to home, it is hard to miss the trees that were removed at the northeast corner of Furrow Road and CO-105 due to the beetle infestation.

As the Bent Tree Property Owner's Association (BTPOA) Forest Committee Chair, I am very concerned for the well being of our trees and believe we should actively work to preserve the asset that prompted many of us to move to Bent Tree. Your BTPOA Board shares my concern and has decided that this issue is of such importance that we have contracted with the Colorado Forestry Service (CFS) to conduct a voluntary survey of our forest to identify whether we have any pine beetle infestation or other blight that might endanger the beauty of our forest.

Although the Association has authority to enter, inspect and remediate under covenant sections 10 – *Clearance of Trees* (or section 11 in filings 4&5) and 25 – *Enforcement*, it is the Board's intent to solicit the voluntary cooperation of each owner to allow the CFS access to their property for the purpose of identifying infestations. THE INSPECTION IS AT NO COST TO THE OWNER; IT WILL BE PAID BY THE BTPOA. CFS shall locate any infested tree both with a tag on the tree and through GPS coordinates and CFS will notify the BTPOA Board in writing of trees requiring removal. Infected trees, if found, must be removed and disposed of by the owner, who will have the sole responsibility for the remediation effort.

To participate in the inspection which will be held on **April 1st-3rd of this year**, please complete, sign and return the attached self-addressed, stamped postcard to me, Larry Stevens, 17735 Merryhill Court, Monument, CO 80132. Any postcard not received by **March 25th** may not be included in the free inspection because a final list of participants must be supplied to CFS in advance. BTPOA, ACTING ON THE OWNER'S WRITTEN PERMISSION, HAS CONTRACTED WITH CFS FOR THIS SERVICE AND ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY OR LIABILITY ARISING FROM THE ACTIONS OF CFS WHILE CONDUCTING ITS INSPECTIONS.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 481-1388. Because this is such a critical issue and a unique opportunity, we look forward to full participation from all the owners. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Larry Stevens

Larry Stevens
Forestry Chair